

## Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 STR-04 OMB-01

CEA-01 IO-10 OPIC-03 XMB-02 /083 W

----- 044362

O 082235Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9682

INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 1348

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MORG, HO

SUBJECT: DECLARATION

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 1324

1. A DECLARATION OF THE SUPERIOR DEFENSE COUNCIL WAS ISSUED ON APRIL 7. IT WAS SIGNED BY CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES MELGAR AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL. AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION FOLLOWS:

"1. WITH THE CHANGES THAT HAVE BEEN BROUGHT ABOUT WE HAVE PROCEEDED TO ESTABLISH THE PERMANENT BASIS FOR A TOTAL RESTRUCTURING OF THE ARMED FORCES AS THE ONLY MEANS OF MARCHING TOWARDS PROGRESS WITH A FIRM AND HONEST STEP.

"2. THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS MUST BE CLEARLY DEFINED:

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A. THERE IS SUPPORT FOR THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE CHIEF OF STATE;

B. THERE ARE NO DOUBTS OR PROBLEMS IN RELATION TO THE UNITY AND DISCIPLINE OF THE ARMED FORCES. THE DISMISSALS WERE DUE TO OLD AGE, YEARS OF SERVICE, OR A RESULT OF THE APPLICABILITY OF ARMED FORCES REGULATIONS; AND

C. THE CHANGES WERE EXCLUSIVELY OF AN INTERNAL NATURE. THEY WERE NOT BROUGHT ABOUT BY POLITICAL, ECONOMIC OR SOCIAL PRESSURES. THE PURPOSE OF THESE CHANGES WAS TO DYNAMIZE THE PROCESS LEADING TO THE ATTAINMENT OF THE OBJECTIVES OF THE ARMED FORCES.

"3. THE ARMED FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CONDITIONS WHICH WILL ENABLE THE HONDURAN PEOPLE TO ACHIEVE A FAIRER AND MORE JUST ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT. THE GOALS OF OUR ACTIVITIES, THEREFORE, ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. PROMOTE THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN;

B. SUPPORT THE AGRARIAN REFORM LAW;

C. STIMULATE THE EFFORTS OF THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT TO OFFER NATIONAL AND FOREIGN INVESTORS THE GUARANTEES AND INCENTIVES THEY NEED FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENTERPRISES; AND

D. GUARANTEE THE BENEFITS ALREADY ACHIEVED BY AND FOR THE PEOPLE WHILE SUPPORTING ALL CHANGES IN FAVOR OF THE HONDURAN PEOPLE.

"4. THE ARMED FORCES SUPPORT THE CHIEF OF STATE'S EFFORTS TO FIND A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE HONDURAS-EL SALVADOR CONFLICT.

"5. THE ARMED FORCES WILL CONTINUE TO SPONSOR MEASURES FOR CENTRAL AMERICAN INTEGRATION AND UNIFICATION.

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"6. THE ARMED FORCES RECOGNIZE THE AUTHORITY OF THE CHIEF OF THE ARMED FORCES, COL. JUAN ALBERTO MELGAR.

"7. THE ARMED FORCES CONSIDER ITS MOST IMPORTANT DUTY TO BE THE PRESERVATION OF TERRITORIAL SOVEREIGNTY AND INTEGRITY, AS WELL AS THE WELFARE OF THE HONDURAN PEOPLE."

3. COMMENT: A RELIABLE MISSION SOURCE HAS INFORMED US THAT

CHIEF OF STATE LOPEZ PREPARED A WRITTEN RESIGNATION APRIL 4  
TO USE AS A LEVER TO REINFORCE HIS WEAKENED SITUATION.  
ACCORDING TO SOURCE, SUPERIOR DEFENSE COUNCIL MEETING CALLED  
APPARENTLY AT LOPEZ' INITIATIVE ON APRIL 7. AT MEETING, COUNCIL  
MEMBERS AGREED TO SIGN ABOVE DECLARATION TO KEEP LOPEZ FROM  
SUBMITTING RESIGNATION.  
SANCHEZ

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY PERSONNEL, ARMED FORCES, TREATY SIGNATURE, DECLARATIONS, TRANSLATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Film Number:** D750122-0313  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
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**Subject:** DECLARATION  
**TAGS:** PINT, MORG, HO  
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